THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Import of scrap

†2473. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India imports scrap from overseas;

(b) if so, the kind of this scrap and the purpose for which the same is used; and

(c) whether this scrap adversely affect the environment in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) It is a fact that India imports scrap comprising of steel scrap and non-ferrous metal scrap and plastics scrap. These scraps are imported for recycling and reprocessing. Steel scarp is freely importable. Import of non-ferrous metal and plastic scarp are regulated under the Hazardous Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules 1989 and amendments notified there of under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and the Foreign Trade (Development and Regulation) Act, 1992.

(c) Reprocessing and recycling of scarp is beneficial to the environment from the point of view of conservation of resources and energy. The import of scrap is only allowed to the units capable of re-processing them in an environmentally sound manner.

Shortage of refrigerated containers at Ports

2474. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is shortage of refrigerated containers at ports which hamper export of seafoods;

(b) if so, whether his Ministry has taken up the issue with the Ministry of Shipping in this regard;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if no, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (d) Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) under the Ministry of Commerce has not reported shortage of refrigerated containers hampering export of seafood.

Shortage of facilities for storage of seafoods

2475. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is shortage of facilities such as ice and chill rooms for storage of seafoods and also fishing jetties' infrastructure is unhygienic; and

(b) if so, the action taken to create adequate facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (b) shortage of ice for storage of sea foods exist. There are also maintenance constraints and renovation requirements of fishing harbours. The Ministry of Food Processing Industries, for augmentation of storage facilities, under its plan schemes, provides financial assistance for setting up of cold storages for non horticulture produce including fish/seafood @25% of project cost in general areas and @ 33.33% of project cost in difficult areas, subject to maximum of Rs. 75.00 lakhs. Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) under Ministry of Commerce, also provides financial assistance for production of ice, chill rooms, upgradation of cold storage etc. through its financial assistance schemes.

Loss to sea-food industry

2476. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian sea food industry is annually losing Rs. 6000 crores due to poor logistics support;